

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 00-12-04**

Date Published: November 30, 2000
For Work Week Commencing: December 4, 2000
Business Meeting: December 4, 2000, 1:30 p.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. MPC SALE – Placeholder – (12/4/00)
2. D2000.11.199 – Cut Bank Gas – Transition Bond Financing Pass Through – Decision (12/4/00)
3. D2000.10.176 , D99.4.106 – EWM – EWM 2000 Tracker and 1999 “Summary Closure”- Possible discussion, direction, action on interim order in EWM’s 2000 tracker, consolidating dockets, other matters as necessary (12/4/00)
4. D2000.11.193 – Richard Helfrich – Complaint against MPC regarding energy audit – Discussion, direction, on complaint (12/4/00)
5. L-00.9.6-RUL – Annual update to Pipeline Safety Rules – Obtain approval to adopt the updates as noticed (12/4/00)
6. Qwest’s E2700 report – Update commission on status of staff discussions with Qwest re: the continued availability of the service quality information

that was included in the now-defunct E2700 report; review draft letter from PSC Chairman to Qwest (12/4/00)

7. D2000.5.70 – Qwest – Section 271 Collaborative – To approve a modified procedural order and schedule and other matters as necessary related to this docket (12/4/00)
8. N2000.8.135 – Essen Communications – Question from Marty Essen whether the cellular loaner program is available for resellers – To consider the answer to the question (12/4/00)
9. D99.12.277, D96.11.200 – Qwest – UNE Deaveraging – To consider draft order (12/4/00)
10. D2000.7.104 – Citizens/CommSouth – Interconnection agreement – To act on request for extension of time to file amendments to interconnection agreement (12/4/00)
11. D2000.1.11 – Qwest and Citizens Telecom Co – Sale of exchanges – Discuss reinstating procedural schedule and setting a hearing date on stipulation (12/4/00)
12. D2000.8.125 – Cooke City Qwest Customers – Customer Petition for EAS – Discussion, direction, or action on the customer request to add Qwest's Cooke City exchange to Qwest's existing Bozeman region (12/4/00)
13. D99.5.129, D99.7.172, D2000.6.95 – Project, Triangle, Mid-Rivers, 3 Rivers – Petitions for Additional EAS in the Billings and Great Falls Regions – Update, status, and discussion and direction as necessary (12/4/00)
14. L-00.5.3-RUL, L-00.9.5-RUL – Hot Springs Telephone, Montana Consumer Counsel – Petitions for Rulemaking on Customer Deposit Rules – Post hearing discussion, direction, and action on proposed amendments (12/4/00)
15. D.C. attorney for FCC matters – Discussion of need for D.C. attorney in FCC matters (12/4/00)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 1:15 pm on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. MONTANA POWER COMPANY DOCKET NO. D2000.11.190 (Eric)

On November 17, 2000, MPC requested authority to incur short-term debt not to exceed \$150,000,000 for the calendar years 2001 and 2002. The securities to be issued by MPC shall be in the form of a revolving credit and term loan agreement, promissory notes to banks, commercial paper drafts, banker acceptance drafts or such other means as may be deemed advisable. The proceeds will be used for the temporary financing of acquisitions of property, the construction and improvement of facilities, the maintenance of service, the discharge and lawful refunding of obligations and other lawful corporate purposes. A default order has been drafted.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC. DOCKET NO. D2000.11.191 (Eric)

On November 22, 2000, MDU requested authority to incur short-term indebtedness up to \$75,000,000. MDU requested that the authority granted pursuant to this application be effective until December 31, 2002. The short-term indebtedness would either be in the form of Notes and/or Commercial Paper.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 00-12-11

New Filings Received in Past Week

- D2000.11.191 – MDU Resources Group – Application for short-term indebtedness
- D2000.11.192 – Quest Corporation – Qwest/Maxcess Inc Wireline Opt-in Interconnection Agreement
- D2000.11.193 – Montana Power Company – Richard Helfrich complaint against MPC regard energy audit
- D2000.11.194 – Cut Bank Gas Co – Interim pass thru
- D2000.11.195 – Qwest Corporation – Qwest/Telicor interconnection agreement
- D2000.11.196 – Qwest Corporation – Qwest/DSLnet interconnection agreement
- D2000.11.197 – Qwest Corporation – Qwest/USA Digital interconnection agreement
- D2000.11.198 – Qwest Corporaiton – Qwest/Flatel Inc – resale agreement
- D2000.11.199 – Cut Bank Gas Co – Transition bonds
- D2000.11.200 – Qwest Corporation – Qwest/Avista interconncection agreement